

# Intensive Services Pilot Program \$12,000,000 one-time



#### **Historical Funding Levels and Purpose**

**Current (SFY 2021) funding level:** \$0 **Funding Level in SFY 2020:** \$2,776,200

#### Purpose of the program:

- Provides funding to LEAs to meet the needs of students with high-cost special education services.
- Creates a 3-year pilot program to test out and closely monitor approaches to reimbursing LEAs for the services of students with high-cost services.

#### **Projected Outcomes/Results**

- Increased equity in special education services across the state
- More LEAs applying for, and receiving funds from the program
- More LEAs supplementing special education budgets, when needed, with general operating funds

#### **Problems to Address**

- The program was eliminated in the 2020 5<sup>th</sup> Special Session (\$2.8 million ongoing reduction).
- The eliminated program raised concerns regarding inequitable distributions, high administrative expenses to monitor individual student costs, and special education carry forward balances.
- USBE convened a working group that recommended this pilot approach to improve program functions and outcomes.

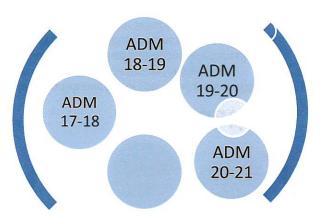
#### Impact if not Funded

Large disparities between LEAs will persist in services offered to students with disabilities with high-cost services needs.

#### Can this funding be scaled?

Demand for the program far exceeds the requested amount. \$12 million one-time is sufficient to cover the state's most pressing needs and to generate the response required to effectively study the program.

## Add-On Calculation

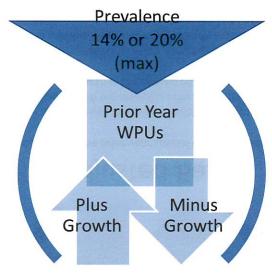


## Foundation

The state board shall use a school district's or charter school's average number of special education add-on weighted pupil units determined by the prior year's average daily membership plus growth and the preceding four years' average daily membership data as a foundation for the special education add-on appropriation.

In this case, "preceding" means the last 4 years before the current year. Thus, funding for School Year 2021–22 is based on the 4 year average from 2017–18 through 2020–21. For schools with less than 4 years of enrollment history, the average of the number of years of enrollment is calculated.

## WPU - \$3,809



## Adjusted Base

Growth shall be added to the prior year special education add-on WPUs, and growth WPUs are determined as follows:

- The growth factor described in Subsection (5)(b) is the percentage change in total enrollment of kindergarten through grade 12 students on the first school day of October in the current school years as compared to the total enrollment of kindergarten through grade 12 students on the first school day of October in the previous schoolyear.
- The percentage determined for growth is multiplied by a factor of 1.53, and added to the prior year WPU.
- When calculating and applying the growth factor, a district's total special education ADM for a given year is limited to 14% or 20% (depending on the size of the LEA) of the LEA's total student ADM for the same year.